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#### Information concerning relevant NGOs in Estonia

The Estonian Ministry of the Environment has received the letter from the Bureau under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context where the Ministry is encouraged to raise awareness about the Convention. The Ministry is also asked to provide information concerning relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including contact details. Here is a short overview of some NGOs in the area of environmental assessment and planning procedures.

Estonian Council of Environmental NGOs (EKO) is an organisation with large-scale activities in the area of environmental protection (for example subject fields like forestry, agriculture, energy policy, spatial planning etc.). At the moment nine NGOs are members of EKO and the organisation is represented by Estonian Green Movement. Contacts: box 318, 51001 Tartu; [info@eko.org.ee](mailto:info@eko.org.ee); +372 7422 532 (phone); +372 7422 084 (fax). More information about EKO and the members of EKO is available on the organisation's website <http://www.eko.org.ee>.

The Estonian Association for Environmental Management (EKJA) is a non-profit organisation which brings together enterprises, organisations and individuals, who are interested in improving environmental performance related to corporate management. EKJA is a full member of International Network for Environmental Management (INEM). Contacts: Lai 34, 10133 Tallinn; [ekja@ekja.ee](mailto:ekja@ekja.ee); +372 627 6116 (phone); +372 627 6101 (fax). More information about EKJA is available on the organisation's website <http://www.ekja.ee>.

Association of Estonian Cities (AEC) is a voluntary union established for representing the common interests and arranging co-operation of cities and rural municipalities. Ensuring development of local governments through joint activities is the main goal of the AEC. Contacts: Ahtri 8, 15078 Tallinn; [info@ell.ee](mailto:info@ell.ee); +372 694 34 11 (phone); +372 694 34 25 (fax). More information about the organisation is available on the organisation's website <http://www.ell.ee>.

Association of Municipalities of Estonia (AME) is a national association of local authorities uniting the majority of Estonia's non-urban (rural) municipalities in all of Estonia's 15 counties. The AME functions as a non-profit non-governmental organisation and works to contribute, based on joint activities, to the overall development of local government. Contacts: Valge 13, 11415 Tallinn; [info@emovl.ee](mailto:info@emovl.ee); +372 6311 990 (phone); +372 6484 928 (fax). More information about the organisation is available on the organisation's website <http://www.emovl.ee>.

Estonian Association of Spatial Planners is a voluntary organisation for persons dealing with spatial planning. The mission of the Association is elaboration and dissemination of best planning practice, development of cooperation between planning specialists, systematisation of planning-related information. Contacts: Raekoja plats 8, 51004 Tartu; [info@planeerijad.ee](mailto:info@planeerijad.ee); +372 74 09802 (phone). More information about the organisation is available on the organisation's website <http://www.planeerijad.ee>.

When talking about NGO capacity-building activities it is important to point out that meetings between different NGOs and the Ministry are organised regularly by the Ministry. During the meetings activities of different subject fields are introduced and discussed, including transboundary environmental impact assessment. Voluntary agreements between different unions and the Ministry have also been concluded.

Yours sincerely,



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